(c) what is the State-wise number of offices opened under this Scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The information is as follows:—

No. of ED Post Offices opened

1985-86— 3

1986-87— 3

1987-88— 857

1988-89— 238

(upto 28-2-1989)

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The Scheme of Panchayat Dak Sewaks has been introduced so far in only 19 districts whereas extra-departmental agents are engaged in practically every district. In this limited context, it is possible that in some cases there may be a marginal reduction in the work load of some ED agents. This however, need not necessarily affect their emoluments which is based on a slab system. So far, there is no report of emoluments of any of the ED agents having been reduced on this score.

(e) The information is furnished in the Statement.

Statement

Number of Gram Sabhas/Panchayats where the Scheme of Panchayat Dak Sewaks has been introduced.

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Gram Sabhas/ Panchayats
1.	Bihar	45
2.	Haryana	8
3.	Himachal Pradesh	27
4.	Karnataka	11
5.	Maharashtra	64
6.	Orissa	10
7.	Rajasthan	16
8.	Uttar Pradesh	821
9.	Punjab	966
10.	Assam	48
11.	Madhya Pradesh	676
12.	Gujarat	34
13.	Andhra Pradesh	120
14.	West Bengal	2
15.	North Eastern States	15
	TOTAL :	2863

Increased emoluments of ED employees

2839. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of increased emoluments to ED employees of the Postal Department from 25.65 per cent to 69.1 per cent effective from 1st January, 1986 has actually benefited all the ED branch postmasters; and

(b) if so, how and by how much?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) The allowances of the extra departmental employees are fixed on the basis of workload. From 1-1-1986, the allowances of all categories of extra departmental employees have been revised and the ED employees have been benefited by an approximate increase of 26 per cent and 67 per cent on the minimum and maximum of the allowances admissible to them before revision. The details of allowances drawn by the ED branch post masters

before and after revision are given below:

Details of Allowances of ED BPMs

(Rs.)

	Prior to revision		Revised rates		Diff.	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Basic Allowance . .	217	265	275	440	58	175
Office Maintenance Allowance		10		25		15
Fixed Stationery Allowance		1		3		2
Combined Duty Allowance (wherever applicable) .		15		50		35

Profits before Tax and after Tax of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

2840. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expected profit before tax and profit after tax of different Public Sector Undertakings under his Ministry; and

(b) how does this compare with the figures of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The profit before tax and profit after tax expected to be earned during 1988-89 by the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas are about Rs. 2800 crores and Rs. 2101 crores respectively.

(b) The comparative figures for the last two years are given below:—

(Rs./crores)

	1986-87	1987-88
Profit before tax .	3076	2971
Profit after tax .	2147	2176

Import of different Petroleum Products

2841. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what have been the quantities of different petroleum products imported during each of the last three years, their unit price and total amount spent for these imports (each) year-wise;

(b) what has been the percentage increase/decrease in quantities and amounts of these products during the last three years; and

(c) what steps, if any, are being contemplated by Government to decrease the quantity/amount of these imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The details of quantity, value, unit price and percentage increase/decrease of petroleum products imported during the last three years are given in annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 158].

(c) In order to reduce the import of petroleum products, the following steps have been taken to increase the